

Harrington Park Recreation Committee
Minutes
Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Chairman DeGruccio called the meeting to order at 8:06PM.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman's Announcement

In compliance with Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, adequate notice of the scheduled meeting was made. It is posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Center. Copies have been mailed to the BERGEN RECORD, SUBURBANITE, and THE NORTHERN VALLEY PRESS. A copy has been filed with the Borough Clerk, and copies have been mailed to individuals requesting the same.

2. ROLL CALL

COMMISSION Members	PRESENT	ABSENT
(CD) Charles DeGruccio (chairman)	X	
(LC) Lynne Cappelmann	X	
(TD) Thomas Donnelly	X	
(RH) Robert Hwang	X	
(KK) Patrick (Kelly) Kramer	X	
(AP) Ashely Plescia	X	
(MS) Matthew Saland	X (8:32PM)	

ALSO PRESENT:

(JC) Joon Chung, Council Liaison

(CL) Carolyn Lee, Secretary

3. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

a. Approval of Minutes (October 16, 2019)

Motion: KK Second: TD

In favor, all said "aye".

4. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

No members of the public attended the meeting.

5. UPDATES

a. Finance and Budget (CD)

No update. The League of Municipalities is this week.

b. Field Requests

No requests have been made.

c. School Coordination

A. Indoor Soccer & Basketball – Billing (LC/JC)

JC spoke to Dr. Fried. Basketball is independent and not part of the municipality at this time. Recreation should submit the hours for Indoor Soccer. The Board of

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Education follows protocol for the municipality. LC asked if Basketball and Soccer are still splitting the costs. LC will track the soccer time. There is no need to charge indoor soccer at the end of the season.

d. Sports Coordination

A. Soccer

- JC is organizing a meeting to review the season and requested that CD, AP and one more member be present to meet with the existing soccer committee to review the season. The existing soccer committee has years of experience running the organization and volunteered to help this year and next year. Recreation is fortunate to have the volunteers help with the transition. They have someone to take over. This is the first time that soccer is under the municipality. We want to look at plans and improve the program for next year.
- LT verified that emails were sent out by NVSC that it is required to join Rec. There were few kids in Harrington Park who play club soccer and their parents refused to make their kids play Rec. There was discussion on Club and Rec Soccer.

B. Indoor Soccer

There are 2 soccer divisions. LT asked to be added on the indoor soccer emails this week. The club kids are in one division and the rec kids are in another. Barry McCauley is involved in organizing the indoor soccer teams. The league has no HP members and LT is working Barry to get included in the league meetings. Indoor soccer starts after Thanksgiving. There was discussion about how the teams are divided. LT has co-ordinated indoor soccer with the school. There were 50 kids who signed up this year. Last year there were 40 kids. The fee was the same as last year.

C. Northern Valley Soccer Club (NVSC)

NVSC is not Harrington Park's travel team. No maintenance fees are charged. Rob Jaeger is our contact. A member suggested that NVSC could use Norwood fields if NVSC is not contributing to field maintenance. AP will find out what fee Norwood charges NVSC. There was discussion about field time.

e. Town Programs

A. Ragamuffin (Review)

It was a nice day and went well. Suggestions:

1. Recreation should invest in some for new games.
2. Open the parade to older kids stationed along the route. Recreation could ask the school, boy scouts, girl scouts to participate along the route.

f. Park & Playground Maintenance

i. Playground Maintenance

- George Street playground should be power washed. If there is funding, AP would like the climbing/slide be replaced with a fire truck. There is close to

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\$7,000 in the budget. The 3-piece train is \$15,000. One piece should be within budget.

- Highland Field Playground – TD said there is a red pipe broken close to the tire swing on the tower. JC will contact DPW to take a look.

MS arrived at 8:32PM.

ii. Field Maintenance

A. Fieldhouse and Hut Repair Estimate (AP/TD)

There is one quote for the repair of the field house and hut. At least 3 quotes are needed. The recreation members all agree that the field house repair is a priority. TD said that there is a spray that kills the moss, but the tree branches should be trimmed to let the sun dry off the roof. This cannot be rolled in with the pavilion because the open space grant goes into projects without walls. If we cannot get quotes in a timely manner, there needs to be a backup plan. A tarp can be put over the field house over the winter. TD will call for a quote from Nelson. JC and LT will call for a quote. The door is not included, but will cost about \$200.

B. Highland Field 5 Wooden Bleachers

DPW will work on this after leaf collection.

C. Highland Field Bent Light Pole

An electrician is needed and DPW is in process in finding an electrician. Previous quote was for a couple of thousand dollars.

D. Pacific Sprinklers

KK said that Mark Kiernan met with them and everything is fine. The sprinklers are closed for the season.

E. Closing Bathrooms/Water Meter

TD will call Bob Haskell for end of year cleaning before the hut is sealed. TD should coordinate with Mark Kiernan when the water is shut off and the hut is sealed for the season.

F. Basketball Lights

Previously, the lights had been left on until December 31st. Usually, you don't see people playing in January. The members wanted to know if they could be left on all winter until 9pm. The TD will ask the police about leaving the light on all year. There are people coming from out of town. Also, there are town residents who complain.

G. Portable Bathrooms

The members would like the Highland Field and Pondside Field to be removed at the end of November and returned in April. The George Street portable bathroom can stay. It costs \$350/month to keep the portable bathrooms.

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H. Locks to the Hut and Equipment

No update.

6. PROJECTS

a. Grant Update

- On Monday, the Mayor and Council passed a resolution for the town engineer to start the project. Greg Polyniak will join the December Recreation meeting. They will be starting the geotechnical information, site survey to design the foundation for the pavilion. Recreation can ask questions about the process. He will explain the process and design.
- Recreation members could ask questions about the Highland Field parking lot (i.e. gravel). It has been studied previously. If the parking lot is paved the fields could be affected. Questions about the type of gravel and other questions should be asked to the engineer at the meeting. We would have a better understanding moving forward.
- The question about AstroTurf on Highland Field could be asked.
- The picnic tables should be replaced. Recreation should reach out to different organizations or families. There was a suggestion that a donation placard could be placed on the tables. A picnic table style should be selected before the donations are requested. There was discussion about number and type of tables.
- The goal is to have the pavilion completed before town day 2020.

7. OTHER ITEMS

a. Bergen Catholic

There was discussion about field use, but no formal request. TD will reach out.

b. Rutgers SAFETY Training (Wednesday, March 4, 2020, time and location)

There was discussion about the time and location of the training. LT suggested registration on the Recreation website. TD suggested sending out e-blasts. There **Vote:** The Rutgers SAFETY Training for March 4, 2020 at 6:30-9:30PM at Borough Hall. The \$35 fee will cover the material. The Recreation Commission will pay for shipping and instructor fees (\$200).

Approval for the Rutgers SAFETY Training for March 4, 2020 at 6:30-9:30PM at Borough Hall. The \$35 fee will cover the material. The Recreation Commission will pay for shipping and instructor fees.	Motion	Second	Yes	No
(CD) Charles DeGruccio (chairman)			X	
(LC) Lynne Cappelmann			X	
(TD) Thomas Donnelly	X		X	
(RH) Robert Hwang			X	
(KK) Patrick (Kelly) Kramer			X	

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(AP) Ashely Plescia		X	X	
(MS) Matthew Saland			X	

CL will confirm with Ann Bistriz and Environmental Commission meeting if we could use the larger room.

c. Town Walk Around – potential projects

A spreadsheet created by previous Recreation Commission members that lists many projects and completion of projects. Members reviewed the spreadsheet. TD discussed painting the field house and has a contact who could paint a logo. AED was discussed, but the location was an issue. RH would like to prioritize the projects. There are many projects and courts that could be addressed. Once the pavilion is completed, we can apply for another project. Columbus Field is SUEZ property and a permanent structure cannot be constructed on it.

d. Highland Field Benches – Resident request to change to recycled plaster slats

The DPW could replace the bleacher slats and the bench slats at the same time with the same material.

e. Pondside Dredging

There was discussion on timing and decisions that need to be made. Dredging is a huge expense. There is concern on how deep it would be dredged and what may be found. Once soil removes the soil must be tested. If the pond changes to wetlands it cannot be reversed. Dredging was done about 15 years ago. The stream that is now much drier fills the pond. There was discussion on why maintain a pond if there is no source of water. There are various sources of funding. If a sample is tested, and recognized as a problem, it needs to be taken care of it immediately.

8. ADJOURN

Motion: TD Second: AP

In favor, all said “aye”. None opposed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27PM.

NEXT MEETING

Next regularly scheduled meeting is December 18, 2019 at 8pm.